



S/N 09/509,449

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: AOYAGI et al. Examiner: WORTMAN, D.
Serial No.: 09/509,449 Group Art Unit: 1648
Filed: 28 March 2000 Docket No.: 594.352USWO
Title: METHOD FOR MEASUREMENT OF HEPATITIS C VIRUS

CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.10:

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By: _____

Name: John Junkers

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

In connection with the above-identified application filed herewith, please enter the following amendment:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel claims 8-17 without prejudice.

Please add new claims 18-22 as follows:

18. (New) A method for determining the presence of Hepatitis C virus (HCV) ^{core} antigen and/or anti-HCV core antibodies in a sample, at the same time, in the same vessel, using (1) antibodies for the detection of HCV core antigen and (2) a peptide for the detection of core antibodies wherein the peptide lacks epitopes recognized by said antibodies for detection of HCV core antigen, comprising the steps of:

(a) contacting the sample (1) with an antibody or antibodies for detection of HCV core antigen and (2) with the peptide for detection of the anti-HCV ^{core} antibodies, and